3: Anonymous U-4 (no date) 1920 RH1 Caucasia RH1

245 Fruit.- Practically all the districts in Transcaucasia are suitable for the cultivation of European and sub-tropical fruits. Oranges and lemons thrive particularly well, and peaches, apricots, plums, apples, pears, and olives are also grown. The plums of Sochi and the oranges of Chavka have a special reputation, and in the Batum district strawberries attain great perfection. Sukhum district and the neighbourhood of Artvin grow the best olives. Melons are intensively cultivated. Fruit-growing is being developed on scientific principles by the peasants and small landowners of Kuban.

●246 In 1913 the total area devoted to *hay* was 1,895,000 acres, of which 373,000 were in Terek, 278,000 in Chernomoria, and 227,000 in Baku.

249 The collection of *liquorice* root, which grows wild, is 257 an industry of some significance, and before the war the shipments from Batum, chiefly for America, were increasingly large. The manufacture of liquorice paste, however, was much affected by the high price of crude oil, used as fuel by the factories, and there has been no export of it since 1914.

An attempt has been made to grow beet-root for *sugar* in Kuban, but the production was very small; 8,785 acres were under cultivation in 1914, of which 7,380 belonged to a sugar factory at Gulevichi.

249 The *sunflower* is cultivated for the sake of the oil to be obtained from the seeds, which is used as a substitute for linseed oil. The seeds are crushed in local mills and the stalks are used for the manufacture of potash. The crop covers a greater area than any other except the cereals, but is practically confined to Kuban. In 1914 there were 698,000 acres under cultivation, of which 681,500 acres were in Kuban, and the total output was 298,000 tons, of which the Kuban fields gave 292,000 tons, the rest being grown in the neighbouring Province of Stavropol. In that year the production of Ciscaucasia represented seven-eighteenths of the total production of sunflower oil in the Russian Empire. Its share in the total for 1915, however, was less than one-third, a decrease probably due to the necessity of growing more cereals than usual to meet